RioVolt SP-250 User Preference Guide
Firmware Version 2.05

Welcome to the RioVolt SP-250 Firmware 2.05 User guide. The firmware has many user configurable features, and supercedes the features mentioned on the original getting started poster and online manual. This guide is designed to help you understand the features available to you, and to show you how to customize the player to your preferences. This guide only deals with the User Preferences.

Please refer any questions or comments about this guide to our email address:

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Part 1 - User Preferences Layout

Below is the layout of the User Preferences. Each option is described in more detail below.

General

- Beep Sound Volume (0, 1, 2, 3, 4)
- Resume (Off, On)
- Sound Fade In (Off, On)
- Language
- CD Anti-shock (45 sec, 180 sec)
- Load Default Value

Display

- Backlight (Off, Button On, Adapter & Button On)
- LCD Contrast
- Remote Contrast
- Visualization (Level Meter, Waveform)
- Tag Information (Off, On)
- Play Time Info (Normal, Remain)

Timer

- Sleep Power Off(Min) (Off, on, set number of minutes)
- Stop Power Off(Min) (set number of minutes)

Control

- FF/RW Scan (Off, On)
- FF/RW Skip (Off, 10, Directory)
- FF/RW Scan Speed (1x, 2x, 4x, Vertical, Horizontal)
- Remote Mode Button (Mode, Program, EQ)
- Auto Pause (Off, On)

Mode

- Repeat Mode (1, Dir, Dir All, All)
- Shuffle Mode (Shuffle, 1, Dir, Dir All, All)
- Intro Mode (Off, On, Highlight On)
- Study (Off, 5 Sec, 10 Sec, Beep)
- Name

User EQ

- Bass Boost
- Bass Corner Frequency
- Treble Boost
- Treble Corner Frequency

Setting Definitions

General

Beep Sound: Whenever a button is pressed on the RioVolt, an audible signal can be played to alert you that something has happened. This can be useful if you are using the remote control and cannot see the LCD screen. You have the ability to disable this feature (set volume to 0) or select the volume of the beep.

Resume: With this feature enabled, if you stop the player or power it off, the last used play mode and play position will be retained, along with the previous volume and EQ setting. For example: If you stopped the player in the middle of track 3 with Shuffle enabled, when you press Play, it will pick up in the middle of the track and keep the Shuffle enabled.

Sound Fade In: With this set to On, when the RioVolt uses the Resume feature, the volume of the track will fade up to full volume instead of starting at the full volume after being stopped or switching CDs.

Language: This feature allows you to select between various character displays for your track information.

CD Anti-shock: This setting to set the ESP for standard audio CDs only. Use 45 seconds to preserve battery life, or 180 seconds to help avoid skipping as much as possible. ESP is up to 8 minutes for MP3 and WMA files, and this cannot be adjusted.

Load Defaults: When Yes is selected, all of the User Preferences are set back to the default/initial settings.

Display

Backight: This setting controls the LCD backlight. If this option is set to Button On, the backlight will remain on for a few seconds when a button is pressed on the player. With this option set to Off, the backlight will remain off at all times, to preserve battery life. When set to Adapter & Button On, the backlight will remain lit all the time when on AC power, or when a button is pressed on battery power.

LCD Contrast: Controls the contrast of the LCD display on the RioVolt player.

Remote Contrast: Controls the contrast of the LCD remote, if you have one.

Visualization: Controls whether Left/Right output or waveform is shown on LCD during playback.

Tag Information: This setting controls the display of the ID3 tags for your MP3 tracks, if the track has an ID3 tag. When set to On, the ID3 information will be displayed. When set to Off, the ID3 tag information will not display. Note: If this option is turned Off during play, the ID3 tag information of previously played and buffered tracks may still show.

Play Time Info: The Normal setting displays the elapsed time of the track – it counts up from 0. Setting this option to Remain shows how much time is left in the track – counting down to 0.

Timer

Sleep Power Off(Min): This option allows the player to power off automatically after a specific amount of time. You may have this option Off, or set in 1 minute increments, up to 99 minutes.

Stop Power Off(Min): After the unit is set to STOP, this feature controls how long the player remains inactive before turning itself off. When using battery power, a higher setting will shorten the life of the batteries due to the inactive unit still drawing power. This is set in 1 minute increments, from 1 minute to 60 minutes.

Control

FF/RW Scan:
ON - This feature will allow you to Fast Forward or Rewind through the current track. Holding down the right button (Fast Forward) on the Joypad will scan forward through the track. Pressing and holding the left button on the Joypad (Rewind) will scan backwards through the track.

OFF - Instead of scanning through the current track, it scans through the track list. . Holding down the right button (Fast Forward) on the Joypad will scan forward through the playlist. Pressing and holding the left button on the Joypad (Rewind) will scan backwards through the playlist.

Note: When this option is On, scanning through an MP3 or WMA track will not sound as smooth as scanning through a CD Audio track. Due to the nature of VBR (Variable Bit Rate) encoded MP3 files, scanning through the track may not function properly.

FF/RW Skip:
10 - When this option is enabled, a short press, followed by a long press of the right button on the Joypad (Fast Forward) will move you ahead 10 tracks in your playlist. A short press, followed by a long press of the left button on the Joypad (Reverse) will move you back 10 tracks in your playlist.

Directory - A short press, followed by a long press of the right button on the Joypad (Fast Forward) will move you to the next directory. A short press, followed by a long press of the left button on the Joypad (Rewind) will move you to the previous directory.

Off - A short press, followed by a long press on either Joypad button will have no affect.

FF/RW Scan Speed: This setting allows you to control the speed at which the unit scans through the track. 1X is the slowest, 4X is the fastest. Vertical will scroll the text from top to bottom. Horizontal will scroll the text from left to right.

Remote Mode Button: This feature allows you to reassign the function of a short press of the Mode button on the Remote Control. You may assign the EQ button to perform the function of the Program, Mode, or EQ button.

Auto Pause: When set to Yes, this will make the player pause between each track to display the track information.

Mode

All of the settings in this feature set affect which options are available when pressing the Mode button on the RioVolt. If an option is set to Off or is Unchecked, it will not be available when pressing the Mode button on the player. For example, if you only use the Shuffle All mode, then turning Off or unchecking all of the other options tell the RioVolt to only offer Shuffle All when pressing the Mode button on the player.

Repeat Mode (can choose any number of these settings):
Repeat 1: This setting will continually repeat a single track.
Repeat Dir: This will play all of the tracks in the current directory, and then stop playing.
Repeat Dir All: This will play of the tracks in the current directly, and then repeat them.
Repeat All: This will play all of the tracks on the CD, and then repeat them.

Shuffle Mode (can choose any number of these settings):
Shuffle: This will play all of the tracks from the CD in a random order, and then stop playing.
1: Pressing the left or right joypad button will randomly select a track, which will then be repeated continually.
Dir: This will play all of the tracks in the current directory in a random order.
Dir All: This will play all of the tracks in the current directory in a random order.
All: This will play all of the tracks on the CD in a random order. Once all of the tracks have been played, it will re-shuffle the songs and play the entire CD again.

Intro Mode (choose only one setting): This feature will play the first 10 seconds of a track, and then move on to the next track. Intro Highlight will skip to 1 minute into the track, and then play 10 seconds of it before moving on to the next track.

Study
Off - Study mode is disabled.
5 sec - Study mode is on. Short press the Stop button to rewind 5 seconds.
10 sec - Study mode is on. Short press the Stop button to rewind 10 seconds.
Beep - Study mode is on. A beep sound will be heard when pressing buttons on the player.

BOOKMARKS
When Study is turned on, the following buttons can be used to control bookmarks.
First, long press the Prog button, then:

Short press Prog - add a bookmark. Up to 20 bookmarks can be set per CD. The number of beeps heard indicates which bookmark you are referencing.
Short press Mode - delete a bookmark
Short press >> on joypad - move to next bookmark
Short press << on joypad - move to previous bookmark

Name
A short (up to 12 characters) text message can be implemented when the unit powers on or off.

Next/Back - select character
Navi - write character
Stop - cycle between ASCII and two byte code
Volume +/- - move cursor
Mode - delete character
Play - end text writing

NOTE For many users, you will need to press the Stop button to access the character set you are looking for. Make sure you scroll through the different characters to find the correct one.

User EQ

Bass Boost: The Bass level may be set from 0 to 12 DB.

Bass Corner Frequency: The Bass frequency for the Bass Boost may be set to 50 Hz (Level 1), 100 Hz (Level 2), or 200 Hz (Level 3). If the Bass Boost is set to 0, the Bass Freq will have no affect.

Treble Boost: The Treble level may be set from 0 to 12 DB.

Treble Corner Frequency: The Treble frequency for the Treble Boost may be set to 2 kHz (Level 1), 4 kHz (Level 2), or 7 kHz (Level 3). If the Treble Boost is set to 0, the Treble Freq will have no affect.

Part 2 - Navigation

To access the User Preferences, press and hold down the Navi/Menu button. Use the Joypad to select options and tabs, to move from screen to screen, and to exit out of the Setup Menu system.

Play Pause >||
Press to select a highlighted menu tab or to mark optional checkboxes.

Fast Forward >>|
Press to move forward from tab to tab, or to move the arrow forward to the checkbox you wish to select. Press to increase settings where there is a sliding bar graph.

Rewind |<<
Press to move back from tab to tab, or to move the arrow back to the checkbox you wish to select. Press to decrease settings where there is a sliding bar graph.

Stop []
Press to exit a menu screen or the entire Setup Menu.

Example: once in the Setup Menu...
1) Press the Fast Forward button to highlight the display tab.
2) Press the Play/Pause button to select the display tab and to highlight the back light tab.
3) Press the Fast Forward button to highlight the contrast tab.
4) Press the Play/Pause button to activate the LCD Contrast screen, which will display a sliding bar scale that allows you to adjust the degree of contrast in the screen.
5) Press the Fast Forward button to increase the contrast and move the slide bar to the right, or the Rewind button to decrease the contrast and move the slide bar to the left.
6) Press Stop to deactivate the LCD Contrast screen and to enter your selection.
7) Press Stop twice to exit the display tab and the Setup Menu.

There is a slight learning curve, and it may seem a little confusing at first, but with just a little practice, you should soon be navigating and changing the options with ease.

Part 3 - Winamp Playlists

We support playlists created with the Winamp (http://www.winamp.com) software. Other software may be used to create playlists, but we will only support those made with Winamp. Winamp is a free program and may be downloaded from the link above.

Creating a Playlist: This is the supported method of creating a playlist. Playlists made any other way might work, but if you run into difficulties, please follow these directions:

1) Create a folder into which you will copy all of the tracks you will burn to the CD. For simplicity, we'll call the folder "Volt" and put it on the root of the C:/ drive (C:\Volt).
2) Copy all of the tracks you want to burn onto the CD into this new folder (C:\Volt). You may use sub-folders if you wish to keep tracks separated by album, artist, genre, etc.
3) Run Winamp and create a playlist using the tracks from C:\Volt, and be sure to save the playlist in the C:\Volt folder. This is very important. The tracks and the playlists must be in the same folder. Please note – we do not support the actual Winamp software, and you will need to use the help menus in the software for assistance in creating playlists.
4) You may use multiple playlists, just repeat step 3 for each one.
5) Burn the contents of the C:\Volt folder the root of your CD. Ensure that the file structure within the C:\Volt folder remains intact.

Running a Playlist:

1) Put your CD in the RioVolt and turn on the player.
2) The RioVolt will begin playing the first track on the CD. Press the joypad down to stop laying the track.
3) Press the PROG button on the player. The first option is PROGRAM, which you would use to program a playlist on the RioVolt. Below PROGRAM, you will see the playlists that are burnt onto the CD. Use the joypad to select the playlist you wish to activate, then press the right arrow (FF) on the joypad to activate it. The RioVolt will load up the information from the playlist and begin playing.

Part 4 - Battery Charging Tips

To charge (and recharge) the batteries on the RioVolt SP-250, use the following steps:

1) Using the AC adapter, power up the unit as normal. Make sure Hold is set to the OFF position on the side of the player.
2) Power down the unit as normal. You should see three options: Discharge and Charge, Charge, or Quit. The option for Discharge and Charge will be selected.
3) Use the FF button on the joypad to cycle through the different choices. Select Charge. Press the Stop button on the joypad to make this selection. *NOTE* After approximately one minute on the Charge options screen, will automatically begin to charge the batteries, NOT discharge and charge.
4) Recharging batteries may take 6-8 hours. After the unit is done, the unit will shut itself off. Alternatively, you can stop the recharging process by disconnecting the AC power.

If you want to use other rechargeable batteries in the player, and have them charged in the player, you will need to remove about 1/4th of an inch of the plastic cover from the negative terminal (see the original shipping batteries as an example). This is not supported, and the unit would be out of warranty should any damage be caused by attempting to charge other batteries than the ones we ship.